

What is claimed is:

1. A sequin sewing apparatus comprising:

5 a supplying section that supplies a plurality of continuous sequin strips, comprising a multiplicity of continuously-connected sequins, in an overlapped state;

a feeding mechanism that feeds the plurality of continuous sequin strips supplied in the overlapped state by said supplying section a predetermined pitch at a time in interlocked relation to predetermined sewing operation;

10 a sewing mechanism that sews leading sequins of the plurality of continuous sequin strips, having been fed by said feeding mechanism, together in the overlapped state onto a sewn-to member; and

a cutting mechanism that cuts off the leading plurality of sequins sewn by said sewing mechanism from the respective continuous sequin strips.

15 2. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said supplying section comprises a reel mounting section on which a plurality of reels housing respective continuous sequin strips are to be mounted, and a lead-in section that overlaps the respective continuous sequin strips let out from the reels mounted on said reel mounting section.

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3. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said lead-in section leads the plurality of continuous sequin strips, let out from the respective reels, in the overlapped state to a guide section, and the guide section guides the continuous sequin strips to said feeding mechanism while inhibiting the continuous sequin strips from
25 being separated from each other.

4. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said supplying section comprises a reel mounting section on which a reel that houses a plurality of continuous sequin strips in an overlapped state is to be mounted.

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5. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said feeding mechanism feeds the plurality of continuous sequin strips, placed in the overlapped state on an upper surface of a supporting plate, a predetermined pitch at a time in interlocked relation to predetermined sewing operation and through forward and rearward movement of a feed lever, said feeding mechanism feeding the continuous sequin strips by causing the feed lever to move forward with a distal-end hook portion of the feed lever engaging holes of sequins.

6. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the holes of the sequins are holes through which a thread is to be passed, and positions of the holes of the sequins in the overlapped state correspond to each other.

7. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of continuous sequin strips supplied in the overlapped state by said supplying section comprise different kinds of sequins.

8. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of continuous sequin strips supplied in the overlapped state by said supplying section comprise the same kind of sequins.

9. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said feeding mechanism feeds the continuous sequin strips the predetermined pitch in synchronization with timing of sewing of one sequin.

10. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said cutting mechanism cuts leading sequins at a time from the plurality of continuous sequin strips fed by said feeding mechanism in interlocked relation to sewing operation of said sewing mechanism.

11. A sequin sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the sequin sewing

apparatus comprises an embroidering machine, said sewing mechanism is a sewing mechanism of said embroidering machine, and the sequin sewing apparatus is constructed by attaching a sequin sewing unit comprising said supplying section, said feeding mechanism, and said cutting mechanism to said embroidering machine.